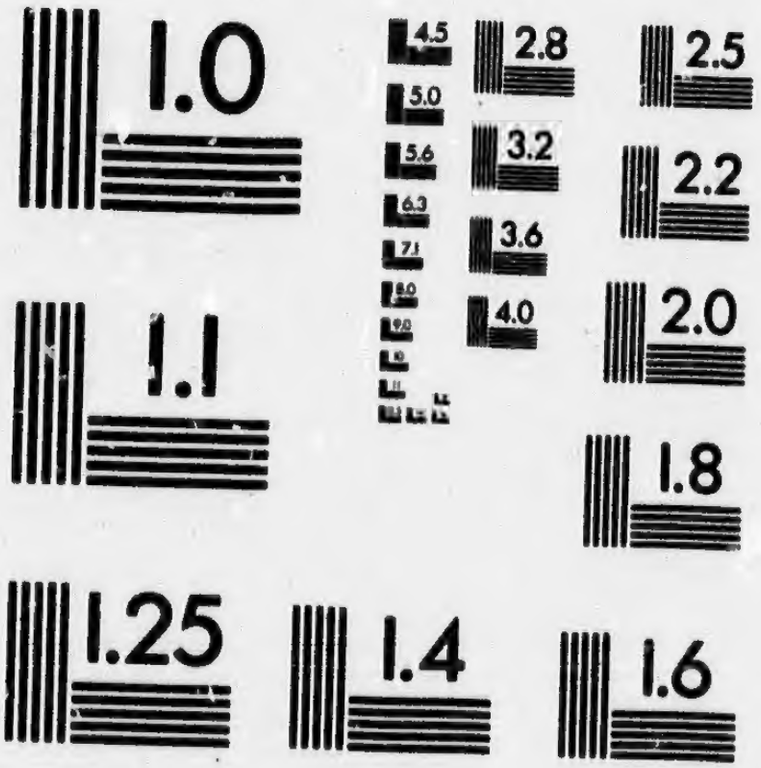
MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



APPLIED IMAGE Inc

1653 East Main Street
Rochester, New York 14609 USA
(716) 482 - 0300 - Phone
(716) 288 - 5989 - Fax

A NARRATIVE

OF

FACTS.

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL
BIBLIOTHÈQUE
MONTRÉAL

IT is the right of the unfortunate to complain, and of the injured to ſeek redreſs; being unfortunate ſufficiently apologises for the addreſs, and being injured juſtifies the appeal. If juvenile diſſipation is a ſufficient condemnation, I ſubmit to a treatment due to criminality; but whilſt I can lay my hand upon my boſom, and with the firm confidence of conſcious truth aſſert, that I have never acted unbecoming the honor of a man, or the character of an officer; though deſtitute of a friend, and the butt of calumny, firm in the aſſurance of my own rectitude, all I aſk—all I require, is an open declaration from mine enemies of wherein I have offended. In vain have I repreſented the real ſituation of my affairs to individuals; they have heard me it is true; but from their conduct towards me, the credit of my complaints, the belief of my injuries reſted but on my aſſeverations; and whilſt *power* on the one hand, and a *combination* on the other, ſecretly diffuſed the poiſon of malice and calumny, all my efforts have proved ineffectual. Determined to perſiſt in the aſſertion of having been *unjuſtly* uſed, becauſe this aſſertion is the truth, I ſhall primarily ſtate the unfortunate circumſtances which firſt gave riſe to a *cruel and illiberal perſecution*, and afterwards demand of thoſe who are my accuſers, if I have extenuated or diminiſhed ought in the detail of my conduct. Though theſe may affect contempt by ſilence, it will be the contemning of truth, and I truſt will vindicate my honor, and clear my character from every unjuſt aſperſion. There is a ſecret ſhame, the conſtant attendant on guilt, to which I am a ſtranger; for was I not, I ſhould avoid a boldneſs of expreſſion my wrongs teach me as the language ſuited to the complaints of *injured honor*. Was it an individual who injured me, the redreſs would then remain at my own diſpoſal; but it is the *many*, influenced by whom I know not, and for what I know not, except that which to the world I can juſtify, and being juſtifiable, it cannot be incorrect.

In the month of Auguſt 1795. I quitted England with my wife, having at that period incurred the diſpleaſure of my friends through a thoughtleſs extravagance, the effects of diſſipation, prior to my marriage. On our way to Halifax, we unfortunately were captured by a French ſquadron, cruizing on the banks of Newfoundland. Being detained priſoners ſix weeks, we were liberated on our arrival at New York. We loſt all our baggage, and the expences incurred at New York obliged me to draw at two different times on the Agents, Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood. Theſe Bills were

indorſed

indorſed by Major (now Lieut. Colonel) Hodgſon. I was ever accuſtomed to draw on the Agents, and adviſing my Mother of it, ſhe had hitherto taken up my Bills; I therefore, as uſual, confidently drew on them, and more ſecurely, as I doubted not, but that my Mother, in conſideration of the loſſes ſuſtained, and the expences incurred by our capture, would not heſitate paying thoſe ſums. On our arrival at Quebec (after having made ſome ſtay in Montreal) being in want of money, I applied to the merchants for caſh on a Bill, but their requiring an endorſement, and being an entire ſtranger, I mentioned this circumſtance to Lieutenant Brooke (whom I had two years prior to this period, been acquainted with in England) he offered me his endorſement; I drew a Bill for one Hundred Pounds on Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood in favor of Meſs. C.C. Hall and Co. Mr. Brooke put his name to it, and I received the money. Two or three months after this tranſaction, Colonel Hodgſon ſent me a meſſage, requeſting to ſpeak a few words with me. On my waiting on him, he informed me, he had received a letter from Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood, wherein they mentioned that one of the Bills I drew at New York, having been noted, they had paid it, in conſequence of his name being on the back of the Bill, and that the other probably would ſhare the ſame fate. This rather ſurpriſed me, but flattering myſelf it was occaſioned by accident, and that my Mother would pay the amount; in which I was confirmed from the ſilence of the Agents for two or three ſucceeding months, when I was rouſed from my ſecurity by the return of the Bill endorſed by Lieutenant Brooke, and given to Meſſrs C. C. Hall and Co. Shocked at this unexpected ſtroke, having received letters from my Mother in anſwer to thoſe I wrote, entreating her to take up my Bills; which letters were written in her uſual affectionate ſtyle without noticing money matters, from whence I concluded all was right. The morning this unpleaſant intelligence arrived, I was on guard, and did not heſitate what meaſures were to be taken, but clearly comprehended my Mother's reſolution, not to pay my Bills. For the purpoſe of tranquilliſing Lieutenant Brooke's mind, alarmed by theſe accidents, I gave my reſignation into the hands of Colonel Hodgſon, determining to go home, and if poſſible reconcile my friends, and perſuade them to enable my acquitting theſe ſums without the loſs of my Commiſſion; but in caſe their reſentment rendered entreaty ineffectual, to immediately ſell out. With this intent I engaged a paſſage in the Fame, and as there were ſeveral little debts I had contracted in town, I requeſted Lieutenant Brooke as a friend, to endorſe me another Bill for the purport of ſettling my accounts with the tradeſmen. This requeſt I made, confident, on my arrival in London, to have prevented all the ill conſequences reſulting from a non payment. But fortune was determined to perſecute me; the very Saturday preceding the week we were to ſail, brought the Engliſh Mail with another Bill of mine under proteſt. This Bill Meſſrs M'Nider and Mitchell had in their hands. In vain did I endeavour to compromiſe matters with theſe merchants--In vain, did Mr. Ocber, a partner of Meſſrs. C. C. Hall and Co. exert himſelf in my behalf, endeavouring to perſuade them to take his ſecurity for half of

the

the amount, and truſt to my honor for the other half. They perſiſted in their demands of the whole, either in a Bill endorſed at their pleaſure, or my paying them the money immediately; all the favor I could obtain, was their accepting the joint ſecurity of Mr. Odber and Lieutenant Brooke, that I ſhould not quit the Province before they were ſatisfied. My baggage, which was on board the Fame, I ordered on ſhore, and was neceſſitated to ſatisfy the maſter of the veſſel with whom I had engaged, by giving him £10 10ſ. My reſignation was gone home, and Lieutenant Brooke's ſecond Bill left to its fate; not but that I wrote immediately to Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood, forcibly repreſenting my ſituation, and earneſtly entreating them, on the ſecurity of my Commiſſion, to pay the Bill when preſented. My furniture was ſold, and a houſe, more expenſive than my circumſtances permited me to keep, relinquiſhed. What was to be done? I procured lodgings, andwaited the events of this unhappy buſineſs, relying on the regular payment of my ſubſiſtance, until accounts were received from England of my being out of the army. I applied to Colonel Hodgſon to have my leave of abſence recalled, that I might reſume my duty, and enjoy my rations and fuel, which were now to me, momentous objects; but Col. Hodgſon informed me, he could not comply with my requeſt, as I might be out of the army, and an impropriety attached itſelf to my ſitting a member on Courts Martial; ſatisfied with theſe reaſons, but depending on my pay, I determined to manage as well as I could. On the arrival of the 24th October, when the Paymaſter paid the Regiment, on my application to him, never was I more aſtoniſhed than when he informed me, that having cloſed my accounts he could not give me a ſix-pence In vain did I repreſent my ſituation—In vain was it for me to tell him I had a wife to ſupport, and that wife in the laſt ſtage of pregnancy—that I was friendleſs in a ſtrange place, and if denied my ſubſiſtance, God Almighty beſt knew how I was to live. Such arguments availed nought, and thus wretched, I knew not where to ſeek a ſaving place, or a place of ſhelter. I had not a ſhilling, and this was the firſt moment in my life I had ever wanted one. I ſaw, as partner in my want, a young and adored wife, whoſe goodneſs deſerved ten million times more love, tenderneſs and attention than I am capable of beſtowing. As the injury my credit ſuſtained from theſe proteſted Bills, exempted me from drawing my pay, and as I could not aſk the favor of endorſement without riſk, I am indebted to Mr. Odber's goodneſs, who although no inconſiderable creditor of mine, generouſly advanced me the monies, I from time to time ſtood in need of. One day mentioning my hard and peculiar ſituation to Lieutenant Shackleton of the Fuſileers, with a never to be forgotten proof of the goodneſs of his heart, after having encouraged me by ſaying it would be impoſſible for the Agents to refuſe my Bill for ſubſiſtance, he kindly agreed to endorſe me one of £15 ſterling on Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood, in favor of Mr. John Lynd. This Bill returned proteſted, the Agents refuſing it, ſaying they had no effects. If imagination could frame expreſſions ſufficiently energetic to paint the agitation of my mind on this occaſion, I might then chance to convey to the world an idea of thoſe emo-

tions.—I dare not attempt it ; for ſuch is the conſcious langour of my diction when compared to the ſtate of my mind, that I throw down and reſume my pen a hundred, and a hundred times over, convinced of the elaborate taſk of attempting to tranſplant my feelings into the boſoms of thoſe, who, little concerned with an individual's misfortunes, and who borne away by the ſtream of detraction, conſider me as culpable. Mr. Shackleton was gone to Halifax—what muſt be his ſupriſe at this unexpected event, I know not. He perhaps condemns me ; but whatever may be his opinions, he, with the reſt of the world, will be convinced of my integral innocence ; and confident of this, in the midſt of misfortune, I receive an inexpreſſible conſolation. Fortune determined ſtill to treat me with her utmoſt rigour, ſoon brought back my ſecond Bill endorſed by Lieutenant Brooke. I had partly anticipated this evil, but, ſituated as I was, could deviſe no means to prevent an inconvenience attending Mr. Brooke : all I could, and what I conſidered myſelf bound to do, was to acquieſce in any meaſures he might propoſe for his own ſecurity, and this I did without conſulting ſelf intereſt : I gave him a legal writing empowering Meſſrs Cox and Greenwood, the Agents, to ſtop the amount of thoſe two Bills with whatever damages, intereſt, &c. may be accumulated on them.

At this period I began to perceive an alteration in the behaviour of my Brother Officers, from a coolneſs, an interruption of all acquaintance and connexions took place, conſcious of my own innocence, I could not help attributing this defalcation in their conduct to ungenerous and illiberal motives—My doors had ever been open—My table had ever been ſpread, for all who choſe to enter and partake, and I too late found, that the men who were moſt ready to drain my laſt bottle to the laſt drop, were the firſt in the hour of diſtreſs, to reprobate and deſert me ; perhaps they were more conſpicuous, as their behaviour was magnified by ingratitude; pride taught me to reſent ungeneroſity, and I believe it was the reſentment of a friendleſs, and forborn bankrupt created and increaſed the number of mine enemies, and in return my expreſſions of indignation were retorted in the language of calumny; or probably their anger had ſo diſtorted reality that I might appear in their eyes, the very monſter of their deſcription—I ſtill retained the friendſhip of the other Corps in Garriſon, but this friendſhip was on its decline, and the golden opinion of my acquaintance began to lack its luſtre from the corroding influence of thoſe who were already my enemies—The attention of the Officers of the 26th Regiment, their politeneſs to me, is too deeply impreſſed on my memory for time or ſituation ever to eraſe, theſe too withdrew themſelves, and I, like a wounded Hart, beheld the whole herd of Society fly at my approach ; one or two acquaintances for a while reſiſted the torrent that had ſweptaway my ſocial comforts, and of an evening would help us to ſolace a few Winter's hours. With calmneſs I endured this deſertion, and began to be tainted by cyniciſm ; but ſtill a novice in the cynic arts, I could not overcome my native unſuſpecting diſpoſition, had not an event rouſed me from this affectation of ſophiſticated philoſophy, and taught me a leſſon, I had been happy to have known long ere now.

now, "that malice, detraction, envy and littleneſs of ſoul, can creep into the boſom of a ſoldier, with as little difficulty as into the breaſt of any other member of ſociety." An officer of the 26th Regiment, whoſe friendſhip I boaſted as unalterable, ſuddenly withdrew himſelf: this alarmed me more than the defection of all my late ephemeral friends; I knew not what to imagine, or how to account for his behaviour; I retraced my former conduct; I re-examined all the paſt actions of my life; not one appeared culpable—not one raiſed the bluſh of ſhame upon my cheek. In this retroſpect I ſaw many follies—many indiſcretions—many errors of youth—but not a ſingle crime—unleſs the want of what hath when in poſſeſſion of, ever led me into error, is to be accounted one. In full conviction of my right to draw on the Agents for my ſubſiſtance, and induced by hard neceſſity (the Bill endorſed by Lieutenant Shackleton not being yet returned) I had requeſted Lieutenant ——— to endorſe me one of £10. He refuſed, but his refuſal was what convinced me of his ſincerity. A few days after, calling at his quarters, I diſcovered a manifeſt change in his behaviour; a warmth of expreſſion gave place to a formal coolneſs, approximating rudeneſs. I had hitherto with ſecret and indignant pride beheld the ingratitude of men, but this laſt inſtance ſubdued by ſpirits—I had neither power to demand an explanation, or ſufficient reſolution to quit his apartment: I remained for ſome time tortured by all the internal war of paſſions. I returned to my own lodgings. To encreaſe the anxiety of my poor wife's mind, would have been but adding fuel to the griefs that preyed on mine. I diſguiſed my agitation, but took the firſt opportunity of writing to Lieutenant ———. What was my aſtoniſhment on the receipt of his anſwer! Here the firſt dawn broke on me, as has ſince proved ſo clear, that I am the victim of *atrocious calumny*. He informed me in his letter, that the Officers of the King's own Regiment had refuſed doing duty with me, that Lord Dorcheſter approved of their meaſures, and that until ſuch time as I cleared my character from the ſtigma this attached to it, he muſt relinquiſh all farther acquaintance. Juſt and Great God! thou alone knoweſt all the horrors which then diſtracted my mind. My reputation blaſted—moſt infamouſly blaſted—every bright proſpect gay hope had delineated for the enjoyment of futurity, ſnatched in one moment from my view, and plunged from the heights of anticipated happineſs into a black abyſs of real miſery. I flew with this letter to Colonel Beckwith, then Adjutant General, to enquire of him the cauſes of this my treatment, and if Lord Dorcheſter had indeed expreſſed ſatisfaction and approbation of my Regiment's conduct. I acquainted him with my real ſituation; but he, with an unbounded proſtitution of civility, refuſed to interfere in what he pleaſed to call a private affair; ſaid he was totally unacquainted with any miſconduct of mine meriting ſuch treatment: He told me I had much better wait on Colonel Hodgſon, who was the propereſt perſon to give me the deſired ſatisfaction; as for himſelf, he lay under ſo many obligations to Colonel Hodgſon's family to prevent his interference in a diſpute of this nature; ſo that his *private obligations* running counter to his *public duty*, denied an officer

ficer that redreſs his injured reputation juſtly demanded. I immediately waited on Colonel Hodgſon and acquainted him with this information, entreating him to inform me, if any part of my conduct deſerved the reward of infamy? he told me the Regiment was much diſpleaſed with my behaviour to Lieutenant Brooke reſpecting the proteſted Bills, having uſed an artifice by which Mr. Brooke imagined, when endorſing the ſecond Bill, he was cancelling the firſt; and that he had got renewed my leave of abſence. His firſt information was to me of much more conſequence than the laſt, the irregularity of which I then paid little attention to; I endeavoured to convince the Colonel of the futility of theſe reports, but he ſeemed unwilling to regard my remarks. From his quarters I repaired to Lieutenant Brooke's and acquainted him with what the Colonel had told me; he *ſeemed* much ſurpriſed, and acknowledging his ignorance of the matter, convinced me the report had not ariſen from him; but his demonſtration had little effect on my Brother Officers, and I plainly perceived a *determination* to avoid all means of reconciliation. I have ſince reflected on Colonel Hodgſon's precipitancy in renewing my leave of abſence without my knowledge, and preſume it rather exceeds the bounds of military regularity, having prior to this expreſſed my wiſh of doing duty, which would certainly have been inſiſted on, or a Court Martial, had I been acquainted with the motives for extending my leave. Although I wrote ſeveral times to the Colonel, I could never obtain elſe than vague and unſatisfactory reaſons, or more properly no reaſons from the Officers of the Regiment explanatory of their conduct. My pecuniary difficulties encreaſing every day, and Mrs. Sorel being at the final term of her pregnancy, the indiſpenſible expences at theſe ſeaſons obliged me to have recourſe to the Colonel, and once more endeavour obtaining the pay of two or three months, in part of what was then due to me; the Colonel I ſuppoſe in conſideration of my domeſtic ſituation, agreed to endorſe me a Bill of £10 on the Agents on account of ſubſiſtance. This ſupply my circumſtances ſoon exhauſted, and I again prevailed on him to endorſe another for the ſame amount and on the ſame account, though what was due to me exceeding the amount of both Bills, I was ſtill happy in obtaining a part. In a ſhort time I began to feel the preſſure of an evil never before experienced, and want, worldly want ſtared me in the face; I again requeſted Colonel Hodgſon to aſſiſt me in procuring my ſubſiſtance, but he abſolutely refuſed. Involved in my miſeries, I beheld a woman whom I loved to madneſs, an infant boy who though he bleſſed us with thoſe tender emotions parents alone feel, and which our mutual love heightened, yet would the little innocent at times rack my ſoul with anguiſh, as he ſmiled at the tear of ſorrow which oft ſtole down my cheeks. Whilſt my heart bled from ten thouſand wounds, I was obliged to maſk my aſpect with ſerenity and peace. The ſuſceptible boſom of my Eliza throbbed with too many cares, and her delicate frame could ill ſuſtain the ſhock of thoſe evils that ſo furiouſly attacked my repoſe. I combated and ſtill ſtruggle to keep thoſe ills from her—may Heaven inſpire me with ſufficient force ever to do ſo. Though the generous aſſiſtance of a friend procured me a bare ſubſiſt-

ſiſtance, the expences of a long winter, when fuel was exceſſively dear and my allowance cut off, drove me to many ſhifts. Under various excuſes I ſtripped my poor wife of ſuch valuable trinkets as were the fond remembrancers of reſpected friends. My books, the ſole reſources I found at times to ſooth my cares, went next, and I gladly received ſhillings for a ſupport, for what I had given pounds as an amuſement. Theſe ſcanty ſupplies ſoon failed—nothing remained but Hope, and unaltered love—that with the thoughts of my wife and helpleſs boy, deterred me from an act, reflection bids my ſoul ſhudder at. I now began to know the world; the miſt which ſoftened the harſhneſs of mankind was diſpelled: yet I am no cynic in affirming, that to one noble and perfect being, whoſe ſoul is actuated by principles of humanity and whoſe heart is the abode of generoſity, there are ten thouſand who diſgrace that nature their Creator gave them ſouls to animate, to exalt and to adorn. In the vale of misfortune I met ſome of theſe exalted beings; they found me wandering alone and forſaken; they poured the balm of conſolation, dictated by diſintereſted friendſhip, on my ſmarting wounds: Theſe Heaven rewards with a conſcious and elevated pleaſure unknown to the vulgar croud of ſenſual and ignoble minds. Thus environed with diſtreſs—where to fly—whom to apply to, I knew not. Acquaintances, like flowers that ſhrink within themſelves on the going down of the ſun, withdrew their ſmiles as affluence and eaſe retired. This framed an excuſe; that told an idle tale; one was diſtreſted through revelling in all the extravagance of diſſipation; another's family prevented his deſire to leſſen the embarraſſments of a friend—all had ſufficient for adminiſtering to their own pleaſures, none a ſurplus to relieve my ſorrows. It is to Mr. Odber, to Mr. Winſlow, to Mr. Young I am indebted; more by gratitude than means; for if fortune ever ſhowers down on me her profuſeſt favours, would they be inſufficient to gratify my ſtrong deſire of returning their diſintereſted kindneſs. Misfortune and detraction go hand in hand; to be unfortunate with the many is to be criminal, and wherever aſperſion lacks a foundation, calumny ſupplies her with one; I was aſſailed from all parts with arrows winged by falſehood, and envenomed by malice. In the height of my diſtreſs, his Excellency Lieutenant General Preſcott aſſumed the command, and Lord Dorcheſter quitted Canada—a happy change for me. It may be improper to animadvert on the conduct of Lord Dorcheſter, ſuffice it to ſay, I ſought for redreſs of wrongs, but never obtained it. My ſituation was now almoſt paſt bearing, and in the anguiſh of my mind, Hope determining to abide by me in this extremity, ſuggeſted an application to His Excellency the Commander in Chief. I preſumed to write, addreſſing myſelf to the Adjutant General, Lieutenant Col. Dalton (N°. 1.) and received an anſwer (N°. 2)—but ſuch an anſwer—ſo replete with humanity, benignity, politeneſs and friendly condeſcenſion as at firſt to render me doubtful whether I was awake or dreaming. Yet why was I thus credulous? an exalted mind ever hearkens to the voice of injured innocence, and ever ready to relieve its ſorrows, guided by theſe god-like motives, will deſcend even from a throne. His Excellency graciouſly promiſed

miſed, on the arrival of Colonel Hodgſon, who was expected ſhortly in Quebec, to inquire into the cauſes of my Regiment's conduct reſpecting myſelf; I having in perſon explained to Colonel Dalton the whole of my tranſactions with Lieutenant Brooke, and Colonel Dalton appeared, and I have every reaſon to believe was perfectly ſatisfied that I have done all a man of honor in my ſituation could do, and far from criminating my misfortunes, by his polite behaviour has generouſly alleviated them. A few days after this interview, an officer in the ſtreet informed me news was arrived at the Chateau, with accounts that Colonel Hodgſon was dying at Batiſcan, on his way to Quebec. I thank Heaven among all my foibles, a little mean animoſity (however hardly I may have been dealt with) is not mixed with them; and, forgetting my diſtreſſes, which it was in Colonel Hodgſon's power to have mitigated, his alarming ſituation entirely occupied my mind; I had however ſufficient knowledge of mankind (who having frequently heard me declaim on the injuſtice done me) to know that the motives of my journey would be aſcribed to the effects of a ſelf intereſted and ſervile diſpoſition; I therefore waited on Colonel Dalton, who approving of my reaſons enjoined my departure inſtantly. I quitted Quebec about two o'clock in the afternoon and arrived in twelve hours at Batiſcan, where I found Colonel Hodgſon out of all danger, and in two days after arrived with him in Quebec. His Excellency the Commander in Chief having made inquiries of Colonel Hodgſon, concerning my affairs, gave me the pleaſing ſatisfaction of an exculpation from whatever conſtructions a vindictive ſpirit may ungenerouſly attach to them, and I had a tranſient hope of receiving part or that pay which by an unaccountable and myſterious management, has been ſo long withheld me—but alas! whatever hopes Colonel Hodgſon might have flattered his Excellency with (who I am proud to believe was intereſted in this affair) he refuſed the only mode of my attaining this money, and quitted Quebec, leaving me in the ſame ſad predicament he on his arrival found me in. To endeavour leſſening theſe mortifications, His Excellency's goodneſs again ordered me the payment of my lodging money, allowance of fuel, &c. which from Auguſt 1795 had been ſuſpended. At this period I received a letter from my Mother, who having applied to the Agents on the ſubject of my ſubſiſtance, was informed by them, it remained with the Commanding Officer of the Regiment in Quebec; on this I wrote to Colonel Hodgſon which produced his anſwer (N°. 3.) to which he added an account received by him of my being out of the Regiment; ſince which period no other advice has arrived, either private or official, though I have received ſeveral letters and ſhould naturally imagine, had a matter of this moment taken place, my friends or the Agents would aſſuredly write me word. The Light Company of the King's own Regiment had been long expected from Halifax to join the Battalion; it arrived at this juncture under the command of Lieutenant Shelly: As far as circumſtances permitted, I paid him thoſe attentions due from one officer to another; he ſoon became acquainted with my embarraſſments, and the diſtreſs I at that moment experienced, from the preſſing importunity of a creditor,

who

who not only threatened, but had commenced thoſe legal meaſures ſo dreadful in their conſequences; and with a generoſity, which ſhould be the leading feature of every ſoldier, extricated me from a dilemma though at a great inconvenience to himſelf. The Auguſt packet brought me a letter from a particular friend in London, that I had deſired to make inquiries concerning the detention of my pay: in conſequence of the extract (N° 5) from his letter, I applied to Major Story; Pay Maſter of the King's own Regiment, from whom I received the anſwer (N° 6) My embarraſments were daily encreaſing—obligated to accumulate debt upon debt, in conſequence of the myſtery which envelops my affairs, and which is beyond my penetration to unfold. The proſpect of literally ſtarving preſenting itſelf to my view in all its haggard horrors—enduring every hardſhip, and tormented by every mortification—a long winter to ſtruggle through—friendleſs with a wife and child, I determined to ſtate my ſituation to Mr. Young and requeſt of him to advance me a few Pounds, to quit my lodgings which were, too expenſive and retire in the Lower Town, from ſociety and the pryings of curioſity—Mr. Young's generous and friendly diſpoſition feeling for my diſtreſs with a ready acquieſcence alleviated thoſe pangs and removed the horrors that diſtracted my imagination. His friendſhip has ſmoothed the roughest part I hope, of [illegible]'s journey, and ſoftened the rigours of a penurious Winter.

Such have been the miſeries and vexations I have endured for more than twelve months, and yet the malevolence of mankind, not content with theſe ſufferings, muſt add freſh tortures to my mind, and attack my reputation. I can forgive cruelty—I can even forgive ingratitude, but the detraction, which ſullies my honour, is too notorious; to pardon that would beſpeak mental debility. It is but lately I was informed, reports were in general circulation injurious to my character, as an officer and a gentleman; the uneaſineſs this information occaſioned me, abſorbed for a time all the hardſhips and cruelties I laboured under, and it ſeemed as if every worldly evil was accumulated in one enormous maſs, to cruſh and annihilate me; but reflexion rouſed my aſtounded ſenſes; conſcious of mine innocence, my ſoul aſſumes a dignity and exaltation, none experience but the pureſt boſoms. Though I feel the powerful attacks of an *illiberal* many—Though from cowardly concealment they ſhoot their envenomed arrows; though I am conſcious they with to league all mankind againſt me; and that men are ever ready to ally themſelves with power, wealth and pleaſure, in the deſtruction of misfortune however honourable and pure. The more formidable theſe efforts appear, I feel an herculean ſtrength and vigour to oppoſe their attacks and wiles, and firm in this confidence, I dictate the language of unſullied honor.

To Lieutenant Brooke I conſider myſelf bound by obligations the more compact, as they involved him in an inconvenience of which I was the ſole though unintentional author; I here condemn myſelf in ſaying, I ought to have had more than the reliance on my mother, ere I had aſked a friend to become reſponſible for a Bill; yet as an accident had never before befallen

me, the inconſiderateneſs ſurely muſt loſe much of its culpability, and though I may not ſtand intirely exonerated from thoughtleſsneſs, who will dare openly avouch or preſume to accuſe me of criminality? if even Lieut. Brooke whatever may be the obligations I confeſs due to him, ungenerouſly (as has been ſuggeſted to me) ever ſo ſlightly encourages ſuch accuſations; from that moment I conſider all offices of friendſhip—all demands of gratitude cancelled; and though I may be his pecuniary debtor; my honor rejects him as a friend, and my heart revolts at his inſidious baſeneſs. It has been whiſpered in mine ears through indirect channels that Lieut. Brooke and the King's own Regt gave birth to many ſcandalous aſperſions; as Mr. Brooke was more emphatically particulariſed, I wrote to him the letter (N° 7) his anſwer and conduct (N° 8) with mine, I leave the world to comment upon; I likewiſe wrote on this ſubject to Capt. Eyre, of the 26th Regt. my motives are accounted for in the letter (N° 9) to which follows his anſwer (N° 10.) I have only now to make this query, and then leave my conduct to Public deciſion.

If a man engages a friend with the pureſt and moſt innocent intentions to endorſe a Bill, and this Bill by accident ſhould be proteſted; that he then gives the endorſer the ampleſt ſecurity; a ſecurity affecting his future proviſion through life; a ſecurity which at once robs him of his faireſt hopes of preferment, and all this, without conſidering himſelf or family; ſhould this man be criminated and treated as an object of Infamy.—What would be the opinion of honour reſpecting his criminators?

Having now particulariſed the moſt momentous circumſtances of my misfortunes with a candour, that may perhaps draw forth a momentary diſapprobation in ſome inſtances, yet on the whole, I truſt will exculpate me from villainous falſhood, the offſpring of malicious calumny, and will wipe off thoſe ſtains detraction has ſlurred my reputation with—I now publicly require the perſon or perſons who propagated the nefarious charges which follow this narrative, or any charges injurious to my character; as an Officer and a Gentleman, to ſtand forth, and I here ſolemnly and openly declare, that whoever was the firſt promoter of ſuch mean, ſcandalous and infamous falſehoods; if an Officer, he ſhould have the coat which he diſgraces ſtripped from his unworthy back, and be expoſed as a peſt to Society, and an example to deter detraction ever again to venture within the bounds of villainy.

NICHOLAS SOREL,
Lieut. King's Own Infantry.

The following are the infamous reports, villainy hath invented to blaſt the reputation and honour of an Officer; and which I declare to be the foulеſt of lies, and the Author of them a Scoundrel.

NICHOLAS SOREL,
Lieut, King's Own Infantry.

1ſt. That having perſuaded Lieut. Brooke of the King's Own Infantry, to endorſe me two Bills drawn on Meſſrs. Cox and Greenwood, theſe Bills were returned proteſted, in conſequence of which, I gave in my Reſignation, (thus far is the truth but no farther) that my flattering Lieut. Brooke

with

with the payment of their amount, for which he was responsible, is a mere subterfuge, I not having purchased my Commission, therefore may not obtain the privilege of selling out.

2dly. That the amount of these Bills was four hundred pounds.

3dly. That when I requested Lieut. Brooke to endorse the second Bill, I used an artifice in making him believe, that, that Bill (the second) was to cancel the first, then returned in the hands of Messrs. C. C. Hall & Co. that he remained in this deception, until information came from home that both Bills would not be paid.

4thly. That I had mortgaged my Commission, to a Merchant of this place, therefore it was probable Lieut. Brooke would be a sufferer.

5thly. That in consequence of this conduct, the King's Own Regiment treated me with a deserved contempt.

(Letter No. 1.)

To Lieut. Colonel Dalton, Adjutant General, &c. &c.

Sir,

When necessity, distress and want urge; whatever are the measures, taken to alleviate these ills, by the unfortunate sufferer; so as the measures are consistent with the character he professes; they require little apology; I therefore Sir, shall not encroach on your time, in apologising for an address, nothing but the horrors of penury could have encouraged me to venture.—I presume you are not unacquainted, that there is in Quebec, such a person as myself, or that you are a stranger to the causes of my detention—perhaps you Sir, with others condemn the circumstances that place me in this situation —I confess they were the effects of thoughtlessness and levity, but on my honour, they are not inconsistent with the purest principles. I shall Sir, avoid a particular relation, of what personally I could wish to explain, and now confine myself to a relation, which yourself as a Father, a Husband, an Officer and a man of feeling, must conceive superlatively distressing, to an ingenuous mind.—Twelve months ago I sent in my resignation for the purport of discharging my debts, since which time, I have received no intelligence concerning the fate of my Commission, except that the resignation was come to hand. During this space of time, I have struggled with difficulties, mortifications and hardships, beyond the powers of imagination to conceive; for as my resignation was given in, my subsistance has been denied me, and my sole support, has depended on the generosity of a Merchant of this place, who though I was much indebted to him, has kindly advanced me money from those motives, which my singular situation inspired; this Gentleman has so far exceeded, what I ever could expect, even from an old acquaintance, that I cannot hope, or wish for farther favours from him.—The few trinkets of my poor Wife, the few valuables I had, my very books I disposed of, merely for the purport of purchasing the common necessaries of life; these are exhausted, and to complete my distress the intelligence I received by the May Packet, aggravates my misfortunes, I have now Sir, literally not a shilling to furnish me a days subsistance—har-

 rassed

haſſed for rent—with a wife—an amiable and accompliſhed wife, whom I adore—innocent of my paſt follies, and partly ignorant of my preſent diſtreſſes—whom I have dragged from the domeſtic comforts of her parents home, to experience ſorrow and vexation, in a ſtrange country—I have a child, a lovely boy ſix months old, whoſe ſmiles ſeem to reproach me, for a miſconduct that may perhaps embitter all his days—obligated when in the preſence of a woman, I love to madneſs, and by whom I am equally beloved to diſguiſe the anguiſh of my heart (for you Sir, though not experiencing, muſt know how hard it is, to render miſerable thoſe we love) with a proſpect before me, exhibiting nothing but miſery; I ſhrink from the idea of future exiſtence.—Thus environed by diſtreſs, one glimmer of hope alone, flatters me with ſucceſs, and prompts me to apply through you Sir to his Excellency the Governor, and emboldened by this hope, I now venture the application: your kindneſs with that of his Excellency's may yet ſave and extricate me, from my preſent embarraſſments; what I ſolicit, what I venture to aſk, is immediate employment, ſo that I may procure, for my wife and child, if but a bare ſubſiſtance, ſhall be grateful.—I entered into the army with a fervent, and ardent wiſh of ſerving my country, and in being uſeful to Society, by laudable endeavours to become uſeful to myſelf; I ſplit on the rock of pleaſure and diſſipation, the ruin of too many a young ſoldier, and at the age of five and twenty, friendleſs and far from home, the proſpects of life are diſappointment, miſery and ſtruggles for ſupport.

To recount to you Sir, the few endowments I poſſeſs, and which are owing to the care of a worthy widowed parent, whoſe attentions heaven knows I have ill requited, might ſavour too much of ſelf vanity; ſuffice it to ſay, I am confident, I could make myſelf uſeful, in whatever capacity his Excellency's or your goodneſs, might generouſly employ me; nor ſhould aſſiduous zeal in the employment of theſe poor abilities be wanting, to prove my gratitude for ſuch ſaving kindneſs. It is my earneſt wiſh, to convince my friends and the world, that the follies of youth, are frequently corrected, by the experience of age.—In hopes of being honoured with your anſwer, and approbation, of my waiting on you, permit me,

Sir, to remain with reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and humble ſervant,
NICHOLAS SOREL.
Lieut. King's own Infantry.

(No. 2.)

Lieut. Colonel Dalton's anſwer to the above.

SIR, (Copy)

A feeling mind cannot experience a greater gratification, than that of being able to alleviate the diſtreſs of a Fellow creature.—Although I confeſs myſelf in ſome meaſure ignorant of your unhappy ſituation, I confeſs that your elegant and pathetic addreſs to me, has excited that degree of compaſſion for your ſufferings, that muſt ever actuate a humane breaſt.—To

flatter

flatter you with ſucceſs in your applicati n to the Commander in Chief would, from exiſting circumſtances, be a refinement of cruelty, and a Courtier-like policy, which, I am proud to ſay, is foreign to my heart; To buoy you up with ſmiling proſpects, would be an exceſs of inhumanity, I therefore am compelled, altho' with extreme reluctance, to avow my utter inability to ſerve you in the line you point out to me. I ſpeak with that frankneſs, that one Soldier ought to ſpeak to another, altho' my heart beats high at the anguiſh of your mind for a worthy wife and helpleſs infant. Of all theſe impreſſions no man under the great canopy of Heaven is more ſuſceptible than General Preſcott, but alas! his patronage is circumſcribed, and his immediate houſehold remain unprovided for. I ſhall certainly lay your Memorial before him, altho' I repeat it, I have no hopes of a favourable reſult, it would give me great ſatisfaction, ſhould he have it in his power to ſerve you.—I muſt beg leave to remark that Colonel Hodgſon is ſhortly expected in town on his way to England, when I ſhall certainly talk to him about you, I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
(Signed) J. DALTON.

(No. 3.)

Copy of a Letter from Lieut. Col. Hodgſon, dated St. John's October 18th, 1796.

SIR,

I am favoured with your Letter of the 12th inſt. and acquaint you, the Commanding Officer of a regiment has nothing to do with the ſubſiſtance of an officer; Major Story, the Paymaſter tells me he has not drawn any pay for you ſince the 24th Auguſt 1795.—I ſend you the extract of a Letter from General Morriſon, "Lieuts. Sorel and Cartwright have ſold, and the ſucceſſions gone in the regiment."

I am Sir,
Your obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) J. HODGSON.

(No. 4)

Extract of a Letter from William Fry, Eſq. of the Sick and Hurt Office, Somerſet Place, London, dated London, 3d Auguſt 1796.

"I have juſt received a Letter from your good Mother: by her deſire "I went this morning to Cox & Greenwood to enquire about *your not receiving* your Subſiſtence money, they informed me that *it is paid by the "Paymaſter of the Regiment at Quebec.*"

(No. 5.)

To Major Story Paymaſter of the 4th, or King's own Regiment, in conſequence of the above Extract (No. 4.)

Quebec, 3d November, 1796.

SIR,

I have from the period that my reſignation was ſent in, but once, and that

that was at the moment of my intended departure for England, troubled *you* concerning my ſubſiſtance; the *pleaſant* manner in which I was *then* refuſed it, determined me never more to make the application. Under the extremeſt preſſure of neceſſity, and perſecuted as I am, was I to appeal to the world (which by the bye is my intention) without in the leaſt extenuating, or exaggerating, where calumny had not given birth to prejudice, I muſt be conſidered as ſeverely aggrieved. I was informed by you, that my ſubſiſtance, from the 4th Auguſt 1795, remained with the Agents of the Regiment, of courſe was confident when I gave Bills on them for that ſubſiſtance thoſe Bills were perfectly ſafe. They have convinced me to the contrary, and that it is to you, as Paymaſter of the King's own Regiment, I am to apply for this money, my due. To convince you of which, the following is an extract from a letter a friend ſent me by the Auguſt packet, dated, London the 3d Auguſt, 1796: "I have juſt received a letter from "your good Mother; by her deſire I went this morning to Cox and Green-"wood, to enquire about your *not* receiving your ſubſiſtance money; they "informed me, that *it is paid* by the Paymaſter of the Regiment at Que-"bec." In a letter of a later date from my Mother, which was ſent by the ſhips, ſhe therein mentions her having been herſelf to Cox and Greenwood, and received from them information to the ſame purport; which I communicated to Lieutenant Colonel Hodgſon. I am conſcious that regularity in accounts is very neceſſary; but when *cruelty* accompanies *mercantile* exactneſs, one officer to another ſhould diſpenſe with theſe forms. From the Agents information, and your reports, God Almighty knows beſt what has become of my twelve months ſubſiſtance. I have frequently been under the mortifying neceſſity of placing myſelf in ſituations truly diſtreſſing to a mind ſuſceptible of feeling, from the want of that which is indubitably my right, and on which I could have comfortably ſubſiſted until the arrangement of my unfortunate affairs. Mr. Shelly (perhaps I am wrong in mentioning a circumſtance that may injure him in the eyes of the Regiment, for I believe, to be my friend, is a reprobatory act) with a generoſity I have been a ſtranger to ſince my misfortunes in the King's own Regiment, extricated me from an unpleaſant embarraſſment though at an inconvenience to himſelf, which diſtreſs I ſhould not have experienced could I, by any means, have procured my pay. Was I alone the ſufferer, I ſhould not have been ſo paſſive as I may have appeared to be; but my wife and child are important conſiderations. I have not a ſingle friend, and my own corps, not content with treating me with unparalleled diſreſpect, have, with equal generoſity, influenced others in garriſon; by theſe methods, where I might have found friends, all hopes are fruſtrated. It is natural for the injured to complain—I am materially injured—perhaps what encreaſes the poignancy of my feelings, is a compariſon I could not help drawing, of my ſituation in a Regiment where officers ſtudied to make each other happy (and my preſent one in the King's own); the Regiment I refer to, is the 33d. whoſe politeneſs and brotherly attention to me, during the time I remained with them, occaſions a regret in reflecting on its

ſhort

ſhort duration: I thought it not improper to acquaint you with what I have heard from Cox and Greenwood, and in ſo doing, the ſmart of injury has drawn forth the ſentiments of my heart.

I am Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

NICHOLAS SOREL,

Lieut. King's own Infantry.

(No. 6.)

Copy of a letter received from Major Story, in anſwer to mine (No. 5.) *of the 3d November*, 1796.

Chambly, 8th November, 1796.

SIR,

I received a letter from you, dated 3d November; in it is an extract of a letter, you ſay, you have received by the Auguſt Packet; which extract, as Paymaſter to the King's own Regiment, I anſwer. Extract, "I have "juſt received a letter from your good Mother; by her deſire, I went this "morning to Cox and Greenwood to enquire about your not receiving "your ſubſiſtance money; they informed me that it is paid by the Pay-"maſter of the Regiment at Quebec."

Anſwer to the above.

The firſt payment, from me to you, was on the 23d February, 1795, after your joining the King's own Regiment. The laſt, on the 24th June following to the 24th Auguſt, 1795. I preſume this is the ſubſiſtance the Agents allude to. It can be no other. I informed them by letter, the 7th Auguſt, 1795, that you had given in your reſignation, and that I had paid your ſubſiſtance to the 24th Auguſt, 1795. They are thoroughly acquainted I have not drawn any ſubſiſtance for you ſince that period which they muſt ſee in every two months accounts of ſubſiſtance paid to officers as they have been regularly tranſmitted to them by me. Your name is not even ſo much as mentioned in any one account which I have ſent them ſince the 24th Auguſt, 1795, therefore they could not ſuppoſe I would pay what I had not drawn on them for.

(Signed) JOHN STORY, Capt. & Major, Paymaſter
The King's own Infantry.

Mr. Nicholas Sorel, late Lieut.
King's own Infantry.

REMARK.

It is ſomewhat extraordinary that having explained both to my mother and to Mr. Fry every circumſtance relative to my pay, that the Agents on their calling at their office, ſhould not have particulariſed the ſubſiſtance alluded to, and was there any pay of mine in their hands, how happens it they did not mention the cauſes of its detention? which had they done, either my mother, my friend, or both, would certainly in their letters have made it known to me, nor would any Agent preſume to ſtop an officer's pay on any account, without informing him of it, or without his approbation.

No. 7.

(N° 7)

To Lieut. Francis Brooke, King's own Infantry, Montreal.

Quebec, 2d March, 1797.

SIR,

Among the many weakneſſes incidental to human nature, of which I am conſcious I have my ſhare, that mean one of ſuſpicion is a ſtranger to my breaſt; and whatever may be the wrongs ſuſtained by this unſuſpecting diſpoſition, I had rather ſuffer from them, than harbour a thought in my boſom which appeared prejudicial to another. Nothing but a full conviction can convince me, a man acts towards me with treachery—that he aſſumes the ſmile of friendſhip, and at the ſame time is preparing a poiſon to deſtroy me. I have for a long time, Brooke, deſpiſed inſinuations acquaintances have conſtantly thrown out, whenever I have repeated the obligations by which I conſidered myſelf bound in conſequence of the unfortunate buſineſs I inconſiderately involved you in and have regarded theſe perſons in no better light than buſy detractors. Though I was well aware, that numberleſs cruel reports without any foundation but villainy were abroad; though theſe reports I found were prejudicial to my honour and character; in vain have I attempted to trace them to their origin, and it was but the other day a ſtrong appearance of your having been the Author of them, determined me to acquaint you of what I truſt are but falacious appearances: my opinion though ſhaken (for I muſt be candid) ſtill hopes that this declaration will enable us both, to diſcover the real inventors of the following calumnies.

" That having perſuaded you to endorſe two Bills, drawn by me on Cox " and Greenwood, theſe Bills returned proteſted, in conſequence of which " I gave in my reſignation; but that my flattering you with the payment " of the amount of the Bills which you were reſponſible for, are mere ſub- " terfuges; I not having purchaſed my Commiſſion, therefore, probably " may not obtain leave to ſell out.

" That the amount of thoſe Bills was four hundred pounds—*this is Mr.* " *Anderſon's information.* That when I requeſted you to endorſe the ſe- " cond, it was by an artifice in making it appear to you that, that Bill (the " ſecond) was to cancel the firſt one, then returned, in the hands of Mr. " Odber; and that you remained in this deception until information came " from home, that both Bills would not be paid.

" That my Commiſſion had been mortgaged to a merchant of this place, " therefore it was probable you muſt be the ſufferer for your goodneſs.

" That in conſequence of this conduct, the King's own Regiment treated me with deſerved neglect. Are not theſe vile accuſations, ſufficient to rouſe the moſt inactive being—Are they not aſſertions of my being a proper Swindler—O Brooke, if I diſturb Heaven and Hell they ſhall—theſe villanious detractions muſt be done away—Am I to be ruined? Is my wife and my helpleſs boy to ſuffer through the blaſphemous ſcandal of villany—Your honor, Brooke, is concerned in this, whatever may be your opinions

—how-

—however you may ſlight theſe tales—neither your opinions nor your ſlights can ſatisfy or redreſs my wrongs—I have now diſcovered the cauſe of a treatment I have experienced in the garriſon, which hitherto was myſterious. You muſt well remember, Brooke, when I firſt was imperfectly informed of that part of this ſcandal concerning my having deceived you in the endorſement of a ſecond Bill, I called on you at your quarters in Palace ſtreet; I then queſtioned you concerning this report; you knew nothing of it, and I was ſatisfied it could not have ariſen from you—may I receive now the ſatisfaction in regard to this application. All I have to aſk of you, is a queſtion your own honor will ſuggeſt, as requiſite for you to anſwer, as for me to make: Do you know any thing concerning the reports herein mentioned? have, or have I not, acted towards you in an honorable and diſintereſted manner, reſpecting thoſe unfortunate Bills, and gone as far as I poſſibly could, to indemnify and ſecure you. I know well, the inconveniencies they may have occaſioned, but I was as innocent as you, and I am the only real ſufferer. I muſt beg of you immediately to anſwer this letter, for it is an affair of too much conſequence, to be trifled with—nor ſhall it. Excuſe this abruptneſs, and hoping by your means and my own innocence to diſperſe this black cloud of calumny,

I remain, your ever &c.

NICHOLAS SOREL,
Lieut. King's own Infantry.

(N° 8)

Lieut. Brooke returned my original Letter (No. 7.) with the following anſwer.

(Copy.)

Sir,

Incloſed I return your letter without making any comment on its contents; when you pay me the money you are indebted to me, I ſhall anſwer any queſtions you put me.

I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant

Montreal, 6 *March*, 1797. (Signed) FRANs. BROOKE.

I returned Lieut. Brooke the above letter (N° 8) with the following anſwer at the bottom.

Anſwer.

Was my HONOUR as *ſafe* in your hands, as your *money* in mine, the queſtions I made, I ſhould now regard as unneceſſary. SOREL.

(N° 9)

To Lieut. Eyre 26th Regiment; Montreal.

Sir,

That friendſhip which once exiſted between us, and which nothing could have interrupted but the villany which has; and which until this moment was to me hidden in the profoundeſt myſtery; begins now to develop itſelf, and I truſt, ere long, to convince the whole world how much I have been injured by

by the moſt unprecedented and villainous ſpecie of calumny. As I am no ſtranger to your feelings, I know well you will rejoice at the exculpation of a friend from the horrors of ſuſpicion. I therefore venture to addreſs myſelf to you, as I have been informed, theſe are the credited reports concerning my conduct with Lieutenant Brooke.

" That having perſuaded Lieut. Brooke to endorſe two Bills, I drew on " Cox & Greenwood, theſe two Bills were returned proteſted, in conſequence " of which I gave in my reſignation (ſo far is partly true, what follows is falſe) " but that my flattering Lieut. Brooke with the payment of the " amount of thoſe Bills, for which he had become reſponſible, are mere " ſubterfuges, not having purchaſed my Commiſſion, therefore had no " chance of ſelling it.

" That the amount of thoſe Bills was Four hundred Pounds (it was originally Two hundred, damages, &c. have encreaſed their amount to Two hundred and fifty or ſixty.)

" That when I requeſted Lieut Brooke to indorſe a ſecond, I made uſe " of an artifice, making it appear to him that, that Bill (the ſecond) was " intended to cancel the firſt, then returned in the hands of Mr. Odber, " and that he remained thus deceived, until information arrived from " home that both Bills would not be paid.

" That I had mortgaged my Commiſſion to a Merchant of this place, " therefore it was probable Mr. Brooke would ſuffer for his friendſhip.

" That in conſequence of this conduct, the King's own Regiment treated me with neglect."

I can aſſure you, on my moſt ſacred honour, theſe are the moſt cruel and notorious falſehoods the villainy of man could invent, for no other purport but the ruin of another's character. And I muſt beg of you to inform the perſon or perſons who firſt diffuſed this calumny in your Regiment, that I ſay, if they are the original propagators of theſe reports—they are ſcoundrels, raſcals, and if Officers, too notorious even for the commoneſt employments in ſociety.—O Mr. Eyre, what has my poor wife ſuffered in perceiving me treated with contempt!—What have I ſuffered in being under the ſtigma of vile ſuſpicion.—I am ſure you will, with pleaſure, endeavour to extricate a character you once, I flatter myſelf, eſteemed as worthy friendſhip. I require it of you even as a duty one Soldier owes another. Who was the perſon that acquainted your Regiment with any tales injurious to me; or were they differing from thoſe I have explained? Relying on our former friendſhip, which I now have hopes of ſeeing renewed, believe me, ſincerely, Dear Sir, your Moſt obedient, &c. &c.

NICHs. SOREL, Lieut. King's own Infantry.

(N° 10)

From Capt. Eyre 26th Regt. in anſwer to the above (N° 9)

(Copy) *Montreal, March* 5, 1797.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and as you require an anſwer, I take the earlieſt opportunity of complying with your requeſt.

In

In reply to your queſtion; who is the perſon who ſpread reports concerning yourſelf, injurious to your character as a gentleman, &c. I aſſure you I am ignorant of the matter. Whatever I have heard reſpecting your concerns with Lieut. Brooke, has been a common topic of converſation, and not the information of any particular perſon. I remain Sir, with reſpect to Mrs. Sorel,

Your humble Servt.

(Signed) E. EYRE, Capt. 26 Regt.

To Capt. Eyre 26th Regt. in anſwer to his letter, (N° 10)

SIR,

I return you thanks for your polite attention in anſwering my letter by return of Poſt. I wiſh to God I could trace to its ſource; the riſe of the moſt diabolical falſehoods the villainy of man could invent, they muſt have originated ſome where or other; I do not doubt your ignorance, for I am confident you would be above ſcreening any *raſcal* who wilfully and maliciouſly traduced the character of a brother Officer. As to my concerns with Lieut. Brooke being a common topic of converſation, the poor people who are ſo miſerably barren of other ſubjects to make that one, if they adhere to the truth, muſt ſoon exhauſt their fund of information, when it is all compriſed in theſe few words, " That Lieut. Brooke indorſed Lieut. So-" rel two Bills of a hundred pounds each, that theſe two Bills unfortuna-" tely for both parties, were returned under proteſt, *and that Lieut. Sorel* " *gave Lieut. Brooke ample ſecurity for their amount, with damages*, and " that whoever denies theſe facts has been groſsly mis-informed," as Lieut. Brooke as an officer and a gentleman I doubt not joins me in affirming. I therefore repeat, whatever additions detraction may add or blend with the above are errant lies, and hope the common topics of converſation will now flow in another channel. Excuſe my having directed to Lieut. Eyre, I aſſure you I was ignorant of your promotion, and heartily congratulate you on it. Mrs. S—. deſires her compts. and reſt aſſured when clear of this unpleaſant and diſtreſſing buſineſs, I ſhall be happy to reſume an acquaintance I ever eſteemed. I am Sir, your moſt obedient and humble Servant,

NICHS. SOREL,
Lieut. King's own Infantry.

Quebec, 9th March, 1797.

FINIS.

QUEBEC —PRINTED BY JOHN NEILSON— 1797.